



Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Come Together Grow in Faith Serve the Lord



December 24, 2019 4:00 PM

Christmas Eve Family Worship Service



Rev. Tim Krick, Pastor

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(603) 436-1704



A Warm Welcome as you worship with us today! Whether you are here for the first time or a long time member, know that you are welcomed in Christ's Name, joined to be with us, Christ's Body the Church, as we worship God.

We love having children worship with us! We invite parents or care givers to sit with their child(ren) around one of our children's worship tables where they can be a part of our service and engaging in quiet activities. If your child gets restless, an usher can show you and your children to our fully staffed **Wiggle Room (Nursery)** where your children can play until they are able to return. **One of the attendants will give you a pager in case your child needs you.**

| Worship Assistants | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Musical Director | Leslie Darling |
| Musical Accompanist | Judy Evans |
| Liturgical Deacon | Linda Edwards |
| Acolyte | Noah Berg |
| Ushers | TBD & TBD |
| Greeters | Bill & Jill Larson |
| Chalice Bearer | TBD |
| Sound System | Jon Huot |
| Altar Guild | Julie Moore |
| Office Coordinator | Mark Donahue |

Church Office Hours: Sunday-Thursday 9:00 AM—4:00 PM

(603) 436-1704 office@htelc.com PastorTim@htelc.com

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Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Sunday, December 24, 2019 — 4:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Family Worship

*Welcome to the ABC's of Christmas (adapted from The Young Women Clergy Project). This will be a different Christmas Eve worship. As you will see, we will still have a sermon, offering, communion and end with the singing of Silent Night. (We will use Glow Sticks along with candles!). But, this will be a bit more interactive worship than what you might be accustomed to. We all will have a part to play. In your bulletin, you should see a role you have been assigned on a separate card. If your card says, **SHEPHERDS**, every time you hear that word said, you hold up your card and say, "Let's go see!" If your card says, **ANGELS**, you hold up the card and say, "Hallelujah!" If your card says, **WISE ONES**, you do the same but say, "Look, a star!" In addition, if you have a letter of the alphabet, you are asked to stand, hold the card up and loudly read what it says on the opposite side, at the appropriate time.*

Call to Worship

— Please stand as able—

P: If you are like Joseph, and you are seeking truth,

C: There is room here for you.

P: If you are like Mary, and you are seeking rest,

C: There is a seat here for you.

P: If you are like the wise men, and you are looking for a sign,

C: These candles are here for you.

P: If you are like the angels, and you cannot help but sing,

C: There is a melody here for you.

P: Come in. You are in God's house.

Love was born tonight, and there is love here for you.

C: Let us worship the God of love.

Gathering Song

ELW 283

O, Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2
Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

— Please be seated —

Lighting of Advent Wreath

All kids are welcome to come forward when invited.

The ABCs of Christmas

A is for **ANGEL**. The **ANGEL** Gabriel began the story by telling Mary,

Pastor: [Luke 1:28-33](#) “Good morning! You’re beautiful with God’s beauty. Beautiful inside and out! God be with you.... Mary, you have nothing to fear. God has a surprise for you: You will become pregnant and give birth to a son and call his name Jesus.”

B is for Bethlehem, where our story takes place. People traveled from far and wide to get to Bethlehem, which was not a very big village.

C is for Census, which means an official counting of all the people. The reason so many people came to Bethlehem.

D is for Donkey. A donkey carried the family on their long journey. Mary and Joseph had to travel 107 miles along the Jordan River to get from Nazareth to Bethlehem. That’s a pretty long journey.

E is for Exhausted. That’s how everyone must have felt when they arrived. It would take about 36 hours of walking to go that far. That’s three days in a row of doing nothing but walking.

Hymn

ELW 279 vs 1-2 — Please stand as able—

O Little Town of Bethlehem



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893

Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

— Please be seated—

F is for Family. Mary and Joseph and their new baby Jesus created a new family, one that would bless the whole world.

G is for the Good News about to be shared with all the earth. This is what the **ANGELS** said:

Pastor: *Luke 2:6-8, 10-14* “While they were there, the time came for Mary to give birth. She gave birth to a son, her firstborn. She wrapped him in a blanket and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for in the hostel.

There were **SHEPHERDS** camping in the neighborhood. They had set night watches over their sheep. Suddenly, God’s **ANGEL** stood among them and God’s glory blazed around them. The **SHEPHERDS** were terrified. The **ANGEL** said, “Don’t be afraid. I’m here to announce a great and joyful event that is meant for everybody, worldwide: A Savior has just been born in David’s town, a Savior who is Messiah and Master. This is what you’re to look for: a baby wrapped in a blanket lying in a manger.”

At once the **ANGEL** was joined by a huge angelic choir singing God’s praises: “Glory to God in the heavenly heights. Peace to all men and women on earth.”

Sermon

Hymn

ELW 270 vs 1-2 — Please stand as able—

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

— Please be seated—

H is for Hope. Now we light the Advent candle of Hope. Hope is knowing that good news is coming, even when things look bleak. Jesus is the source of our hope.

I is for Imagine. If we close our eyes and imagine the scene, we can see the beauty and wonder of the **ANGELS** proclaiming good news to all men and women. We can see the **SHEPHERDS**, first terrified, but then overcome with joy as they hear the good news. If we try even harder, we can imagine a world where God's peace reigns, where there is no war or hunger. And if we can imagine it, we can do it with God's help.

J is for Joy. Now we light the Advent candle of Joy. Joy is a kind of happiness that comes from God. It cannot be dampened, and is always shared. The birth of Jesus gives us joy.

Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

— Please be seated—

K is for King. Though Jesus would be King, he was not the kind of King people were used to. Most kings are born in palaces, surrounded by servants. He was born in a stable, surrounded by dirty, smelly **SHEPHERDS**. Most kings rule with power and fear. Jesus rules with mercy and love.

L is for Lost. When Jesus grew up he told a lot of stories, and three of them were about lost things that were found. He loved to find lost things, and when you are with Jesus, you will never be lost. He is the good **SHEPHERD**, who will do anything to find his lost sheep.

L is also for Love. Now we light the Advent candle of Love, Jesus summarized his ministry by saying “Love God...” and “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

M is for Manger. A manger is usually used to hold food for animals, but this time it held the baby because he had no crib.

Away in a Manger



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
 Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
 ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.

Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841–1905

— Please be seated—

N is for Noel. Noel is another word for Christmas. It means new birth, and that's what happened in our story. That's what happens every year at Christmas time. That's what happens every time we decide to follow Jesus – he is born anew in us.

O is for Offering. The **WISE ONES** gave gifts to the baby, and we can offer our gifts every day. We give our time, our talents, and our treasure to God, and pray that as a Church, we are good stewards of all that is entrusted to us. So we share our gifts now.

Offering

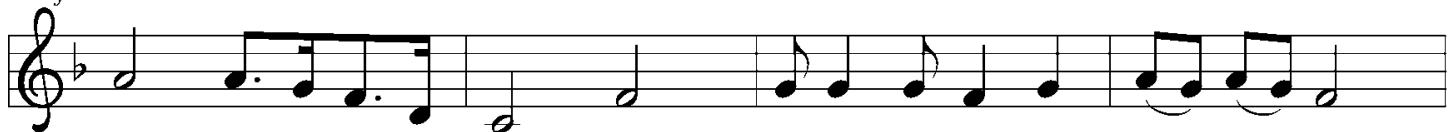
An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set. After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands. Bread, wine, money, and other gifts may be brought forward.

Offering Song

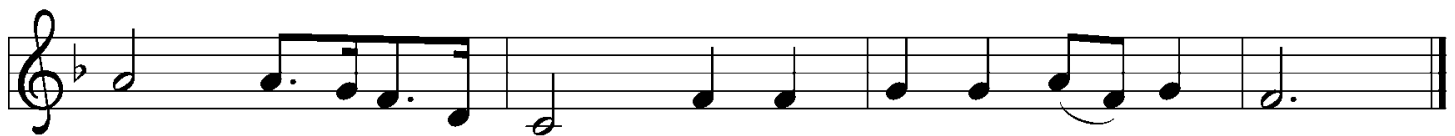
ELW 290

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

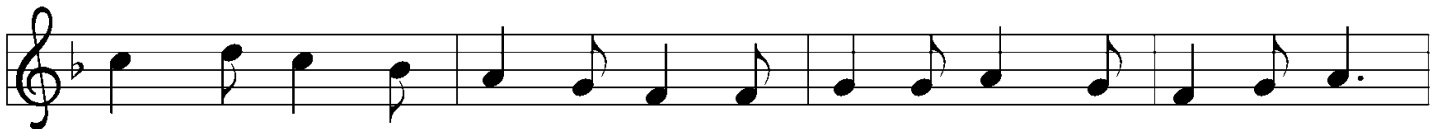
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866
 Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

It Came upon the Midnight Clear



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876
 Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

P is for Peace. Jesus is the Prince of Peace, and is the source of the kind of peace that surpasses all understanding.

The Sharing of God's Peace

P: The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

The congregation is invited to exchange expressions of peace with those near them. Please remember to greet the children too. You may be seated after the passing of the peace.

Q is for Quiet. We begin a time of prayer in quiet, allowing God to speak to us, and joyful when the quiet is broken by small voices. Let us take a few moments of quiet together.

—A brief silence—

R is for Revealed. Revealed means “showing us something that was once hidden.” God revealed to us what love looks like by giving us Jesus. Jesus is love, and reveals to us the way to love one another.

S is for Star. One special star guided **WISE ONES** to come to see the baby. They were mysterious, and they lived far away, but they brought gifts to Jesus because they knew that he would grow up to be a King.

Pastor: *Matthew 2:9-11* Instructed by the king, the **WISE ONES** set off. Then the star appeared again, the same star they had seen in the eastern skies. It led them on until it hovered over the place of the child. The **WISE ONES** could hardly contain themselves: They were in the right place! They had arrived at the right time! They entered the house and saw the child in the arms of Mary, his mother. Overcome, they kneeled and worshipped him. Then the **WISE ONES** opened their luggage and presented gifts: gold, frankincense, myrrh.

T is for Table. When Jesus grew up he invited all to his table. He gave his friends bread and wine, and told them to remember him always. When we gather at the Lord’s Table today, we call it Communion because we come together. So at this table, we also remember the next letter:

U is for Unity. Communion is a time when all people can come together and be one, just as many grains come together to form one bread. We, who are many people, come together to be one body of Christ.

The Celebration of Holy Communion

As you come to the Lord's Table, know that it is Christ who invites you to receive the bread and wine, the body and blood. There will be two communion stations. We will commune by intinction – dip the wafer of bread into the chalice of wine. Gluten free wafers are available for those who need them. If you would like to receive communion, but you are unable to come forward, please ask someone to talk to the ushers and we will bring communion to you.

Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Feel free to use the version of the Lord's Prayer you are most comfortable with.

P: Now, as our Lord taught us, we are bold to pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done,

on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion. After receiving communion, please take a candle or glow stick and break it so it illuminates.

Communion Hymns:

While others are communing, you are invited to sing a communion hymn or to meditate on the readings and prayers for the day. **Communion Hymn #1: ELW 300**

The First Noel



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . . .
4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . . .
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and

Refrain



night that was so deep.
tin-ued both day and night.
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
place where Je - sus lay.
myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English traditional
Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

What Child Is This



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
 2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
 saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
 Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
 Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt.
 Music: W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY, Polish carol

Sending of Communion

— Please remain seated—

P: Gracious God, whose mercy endures from generation to generation:
 Bless those who go forth to carry your Word and sacrament to our
 sisters and brothers who are homebound. In your love and compassion,
 nourish and strengthen them with hope through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Communion Blessing

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: Amen.

V is for Vulnerable. Vulnerable means, “able to be hurt.” Every baby is very vulnerable, and so are we when we love one another. God became vulnerable when Jesus was born, and we are called to be vulnerable when we love our brothers and sisters.

W is for Wonder. Like the **WISE ONES**, we stand in awe and wonder of the newborn King.

X is for Christ. X is the Greek letter Chi, the first letter in the word “Christ.” The X is one of the most ancient symbols of Christianity. People have been using the letter X to stand for Christ for centuries. And now we light the Christ candle, symbolizing the coming of light into the world. Jesus is born.

Y is for You. You **ANGELS**. You **WISE ONES**. You **SHEPHERDS**. You sons and daughters. You mothers and fathers. You friends and strangers. You are all here to worship and celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Z is for Zeal. Let your zeal for Christ burn brightly. As these lights are passed out, know that the light of God burns much, much brighter. Though these lights will die out, the light of God is steadfast, and endures forever.

Celebration of Light (*Candle-lighting ceremony*)

Pastor will take the light from the Christ candle to share with the ushers who will assist in passing the light through the sanctuary. Individual candles will be lit by tipping only unlit candles to receive the flame from those already lit. Worshipers are cautioned not to tip burning candles, lest hot wax spill. Adults are asked to assist and help children.

P: The Grace of God has come to us and touches our lives.

C: Jesus our Savior is born!

P: Praise the Lord with heart filled joy!

C: We praise the Lord, for the Word has come to dwell with us.

P: The light of Christ shines across the ages even into our world and our hearts this night.

C: God loves us.

P: Jesus is the light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome.

C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Silent Night, Holy Night!
Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht!



Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
 1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
 all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885
 Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

Benediction

—Please stand as able—

P: Let the light of Christ shine through our lives and bring mercy, peace, and love wherever we go.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

—Please remain standing—

LD: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

—Please carefully extinguish the individual candles and return them to a basket in the narthex.—

*As you depart, go renewed in God's promise in Christ for you. Be safe in your travels!
May this Christmas season offer you peace!*

Please return to join us in worship: **Sundays at 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM**

Church Office Hours: Sunday-Thursday 9:00 AM—4:00 PM

(603) 436-1704 office@htelc.com PastorTim@htelc.com

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